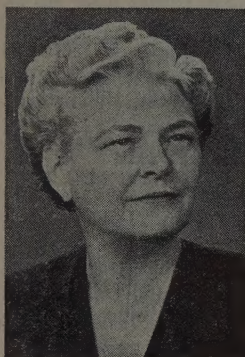


# NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

MARCH 1948

PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS • CHICAGO 5 • VOL. 15, NO. 7

## Dear Local Presidents:



Mrs. L. W. Hughes

**R**ETURNING home late in January from Venezuela, I resumed my many duties here with increased zeal, after attending the Ninth Pan American Child Congress in Caracas. The meeting was indeed a mem-

orable and enriching experience, for gathered there with one common goal were persons from all the Americas—North, Central, and South—who had come to compare the needs of children and to pool their resources in seeing that those needs are met. United in this lofty purpose, all of us felt a strong kinship for our fellow delegates, and despite the language barrier, a real spirit of comradeship prevailed.

• The assembled delegates were from Argentina, Panama, Bolivia, Guatemala, Uruguay, Brazil, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Venezuela, and the United States. The chairman of the United States delegation was Katharine F. Lenroot, chief of the U.S. Children's Bureau, and several other government officials were also present. Then there were the representatives of some ten or twelve organizations, among them the Child Welfare League of America, the American National Red Cross, the American Association of Social Workers, the American Nurses' Association, the American Public Health Association, and, of course, the National Congress!

• The president of Venezuela brought greetings at the opening session, and Dr. Gustavo Machado, noted Venezuelan physician, presided at all meetings. Various sectional committees were appointed, just as at one of our own conferences, and your president was pleased at being asked to serve on the Educa-

tion Committee. The addresses dealt with subjects in which all of us were interested: "Recreation and the Child in His Out-of-School Hours"; "Welfare Work and the School"; "Progressive Education"; "Education of the Preschool Child"; "Education of Children in Rural Areas"; "Vocational Training"; "Helping People Help Themselves"; "Nutrition in Health Programs"; and many others.

• There were no regular evening sessions, but many of the committees worked until midnight preparing reports and recommendations. Then on the last day final reports and conclusions were read and voted upon.

• The chief recommendations adopted dealt with pediatrics, maternal and child

hygiene, social welfare, and legislation to be presented at the Ninth International Conference of American States, scheduled to meet in Bogota, Colombia, in March 1948. It was also recommended that the American republics be urged to intensify their cooperative activities, along such lines as the loan of technical personnel, the organization of training programs, and the provision of fellowships for study and observation in the fields of health, education, and social service.

• One of the most interesting issues was a children's code, which a Venezuelan committee had been working on for more than a year. It was submitted to the sectional committees and discussed, item by item, word by word. When it is finally complete, I am sure it will be of great import, not only to the Western Hemisphere but to the whole world.

*(Continued on page 2)*



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A view of downtown Cleveland, where convention delegates will be gathering at the Statler Hotel in May.



● Although there were small disagreements from time to time, all of them were either composed or referred for further study to the Institute on Pan American Affairs, a continuing body. The final conclusions seemed to be suitable to everyone of the delegations.

● As the conference prepared to disband, good-byes were difficult to say. Although it is hard to believe there could be such esteem among men and women who had known each other only one short week, we were genuinely sorry to part. All of us were struck by the fact that if only the peoples of the world could come to know each other better, the governments would have far less trouble getting along.

● Following the last session on Saturday, January 10, I left early the next morning for La Guira Airport, twelve miles away, where I boarded a plane for Balboa. We flew above the clouds most of the time, and except for landing at Coro, Maracaibo, and Barranquilla, the trip was uneventful.

● When I arrived at 4:00 p.m., I was met by an official who told me I was given the freedom of the port, an honor accorded only to their most distinguished visitors. Naturally, I was flattered at this cordial gesture. Also on hand was a delegation of parent-teacher members who gave me a warm welcome and told me that the Canal Zone Council of P.T.A.'s had arranged a dinner in my honor that evening at the Tivoli Hotel, where I would be staying.

● Present at the dinner were the officers and executive committee members of eight local P.T.A.'s. I told them about our Four-Point Program and our aims and aspirations for the future, and in turn, learned much about the progress of the parent-teacher movement in that area.

● The next morning I had a delightful visit with the governor, J. C. Mahaffey, and then was taken on an interesting tour of the schools. Later I was shown the western part of the Canal Zone, Panama City, Balboa, and Old Panama. This is the original city built by the Spanish in the early 1500's and destroyed by an English pirate who set fire to the city in 1671. A mile of gaunt walls and towers still stand as monuments to "man's inhumanity to man."

● On Tuesday evening, January 13, I addressed a parent-teacher meeting at Balboa High School, attended by teachers, army officers, and some of the foremost people in the government. About half were men. My talk was the first thing on the program, and later I did my best to answer any questions they

had in mind. The Canal Zone P.T.A.'s have some problems to solve, of course, but with such intelligent, sincere members, I am sure no obstacle will be too great for them.

● From Balboa I took the Pan American Clipper to Guatemala, which is the cleanest city I have ever seen. Its broad streets, churches, hotels, and public buildings are simply immaculate, and there are no slums and poverty such as I had seen elsewhere. From Guatemala our American cities could learn a valuable lesson in municipal housekeeping.

● After another stop in Merida, Yucatan, I returned to Memphis via New Orleans, and as I write this message, I am in Chicago for the national health conference at the Stevens Hotel. A challenging program has been arranged, and prominent health leaders from all over the country are assembling for the opening session on February 16. Future issues of our *Bulletin* and *National Parent-Teacher* magazine will bring you a full account of this meeting, which we feel confident will do much to implement the health area of our Four-Point Program, particularly at the local level.

Faithfully yours,

*Mabel W. Hughes*

President

National Congress of Parents and Teachers

### Teachers Honored with Life Memberships

Three teachers in the Downey Elementary School in Downey, California—Christine Butler, Corinne Kaye, and Burnice Love—have received life memberships in the Downey Elementary P.T.A. Although only one of the three is now on active duty at school, at the time of the presentation each of them had taught at Downey for more than twenty years. In fact, their combined terms of service equaled 73 years in all.

All three of the instructors were charter members of the P.T.A., and each had served as vice-president at some time during her years on the faculty. The local association was indeed proud to give them this recognition of their devotion to the young people of the community.

## FIVE NATIONAL OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED

Five national officers are to be elected at the annual convention in May 1948, and the nominating committee of the National Congress has presented the names of the following nominees for the offices to be filled:

- Second Vice-president, Herold C. Hunt, Chicago, Illinois
- Vice-president, Region I, Mrs. Clifford N. Jenkins, West Hempstead, L.I., New York
- Vice-president, Region II, Mrs. A. J. Nicely, Erie, Pennsylvania
- Vice-president, Region IV, Mrs. Robert F. Shank, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Vice-president, Region VI, Mrs. C. C. Clark, Natchez, Mississippi

All nominees are well qualified and have signified their willingness to serve if elected. Each term of office is three years.

The members of the nominating committee are Mrs. O. G. Hankins, chairman, Washington; Mrs. Gertrude E. Flyte, South Dakota; Mrs. Ralph Hester, Mississippi; Mrs. Arthur Olson, New Hampshire; and A. W. Zellmer, Wisconsin.

### PARENT EDUCATION STUDY COURSES FOR 1948-49

● The editors of *National Parent-Teacher* have just announced the titles of the two study courses to be offered by the magazine next year. They are:

- Psychology of the Preschool Child, directed by Ethel Kawin
- Psychology of the School-Age Child, directed by Ralph H. Ojemann

As in the past, some of the country's most eminent authorities on child development will write the study course articles. A future issue of the *Bulletin* will carry an announcement of the subjects to be covered.

### NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

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MARCH 1948

Number 7

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# FIFTY OR MORE P.T.A. MAGAZINE SUBSCRIBERS

OUR "50 or More" *National Parent-Teacher* list this month should be gratifying to all who are interested in the Four-Point Program, for it offers substantial evidence that the *parent education* area is being widely promoted at the local level. It means that, in the communities named here, fifty or more parents have had the benefit of some of the foremost parent education material in America today.

If one of the child training specialists who writes for the magazine were to make a personal call at your home, offering during his visit some valuable counsel, wouldn't your appreciation be great indeed? Well, that is exactly what happens when the *National Parent-Teacher* arrives and is read by mothers and fathers in countless communities all over the country. Only in this case a whole group of experts has called on you and left some authoritative advice in writing, so that you may refer to it again and again, if need be.

Here, then are the P.T.A.'s whose members realize these facts, whose interest in parent education has led fifty or more subscribers to await with eagerness each issue of the *National Parent-Teacher*:

Humes High	Memphis, Tenn.	361
Jefferson	Erie, Pa.	217
North Canton	North Canton, Ohio	204
Clinton Grammar	Clinton, N. C.	198
Central	Greensboro, N. C.	187
Clarendon	Canton, Ohio	187
Woodstock	Anniston, Ala.	141
S. M. Inman	Atlanta, Ga.	135
Polk	Ogden, Utah	133
Maple Avenue	Newark, N. J.	131
North Main	Mt. Airy, N. C.	123
Lindley	Greensboro, N. C.	116
Darwin	Chicago, Ill.	110
Emerson	Phoenix, Ariz.	107
Crockett	El Paso, Texas	106
Brackett	Arlington, Mass.	105
Grammar School	McComb, Miss.	104
Lincoln	Kingsport, Tenn.	103
Franklin	Wichita Falls, Texas	103
Nicolet Elementary	Green Bay, Wis.	103
Smithfield	Pawtucket, R. I.	102
Longfellow	Erie, Pa.	98
Hubbell	Des Moines, Iowa	91
Daretown	Daretown, N. J.	90
Mason	Chicago, Ill.	86
Garrison	Rockford, Ill.	86
Fairview	Camden, Ark.	83
Wilson	Fargo, N. Dak.	80
Greene	Pawtucket, R. I.	79
Franklin	Fargo, N. Dak.	77
Towe	Chicago, Ill.	75
Terrace	Baton Rouge, La.	75
Fairview Avenue	Dayton, Ohio	75
Maple Avenue	Newark, N. J.	74
East Over School	Charlotte, N. C.	74
Tucker	Monroe, La.	70
Silas W. Gardner	Laurel, Miss.	70
Baker	Altoona, Pa.	70
Whittier	Oskaloosa, Iowa	69
Jackson	York, Pa.	69
Howell	Atlanta, Ga.	68
East Clinton	Huntsville, Ala.	66
Somerville Road	Decatur, Ala.	65
Duling	Jackson, Miss.	65
Peninsula	Portland, Ore.	65

Junior High	N. Little Rock, Ark.	64
Centennial High	Pueblo, Colo.	64
Lafayette	Salt Lake City, Utah	64
McRae	N. Little Rock, Ark.	63
Park School	Boise, Idaho	63
Pierce Park	Boise, Idaho	63
Hibbard	Chicago, Ill.	63
Arthur School	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	63
Perquimans County		
Central Grammar	Hertford, N. C.	62
Aliceville	Aliceville, Ala.	61
Kirkwood School	Atlanta, Ga.	61
Kirkwood	Des Moines, Iowa	61
Ruleville	Ruleville, Miss.	61
Cumberland	Milwaukee, Wis.	61
Highland Avenue	Montgomery, Ala.	60
Garfield	Collinswood, N. J.	60
Laurelhurst	Portland, Ore.	60
Ninth Ward	Eau Claire, Wis.	60
Aycock	Kannapolis, N. C.	59
Granville	Winston-Salem, N. C.	58
Lincoln	Ogden, Utah	58
Sherman	New Haven, Conn.	57
Farnsworth	Chicago, Ill.	57
Evanston	Cincinnati, Ohio	57
Evergreen Park	Evergreen Park, Ill.	55
Lincoln	Waterloo, Iowa	55
Alcott	Hastings, Nebr.	55
Braswell	Rocky Mount, N. C.	55
Danville Grade	Danville, W. Va.	55
Polk School	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	54
Centralia	Centralia, Mo.	54
Longfellow	Pennsauken, N. J.	54
Schaeffer	Lancaster, Pa.	54
Emerson	Salt Lake City, Utah	54
Lipcomb	Aubussem, Ala.	53
Audubon Grade	Andover, N. J.	53
Walnut Street	Woodbury, N. J.	53
School 15	Tuckahoe, N. Y.	53
Edgemont	Rocky Mount, N. C.	53
Ackley Green	Portland, Ore.	53
Mitchell	Charleston, S. C.	53
Dubois	Springfield, Ill.	52
Fort Hill Junior High	Dalton, Ga.	51
Bruce School	Macon, Ga.	51
Bowmar Avenue	Vicksburg, Miss.	51
Woodard	Wilson, N. C.	51
Burdge	Beloit, Wis.	51
East Lake	Atlanta, Ga.	50
Morningside	Atlanta, Ga.	50
Garfield	Boise, Idaho	50
Avondale	Chicago, Ill.	50
Budlong	Chicago, Ill.	50
Bryant	Boone, Iowa	50
Hayes School	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	50
Mansfield	Mansfield, La.	50
Allen	New Orleans, La.	50
Madison	Winona, Minn.	50
Poindexter	Jackson, Miss.	50
Liberty School	Englewood, N. J.	50
Wayne	Cleveland, Ohio	50
Northridge	Dayton, Ohio	50
Kendall	Tulsa, Okla.	50
Sequoyah	Tulsa, Okla.	50
Capitol Hill	Portland, Ore.	50
Morris—No. 27	Scranton, Pa.	50
Wickford Grammar	Wickford, R. I.	50
Florence-McKenzie	Florence, S. C.	50

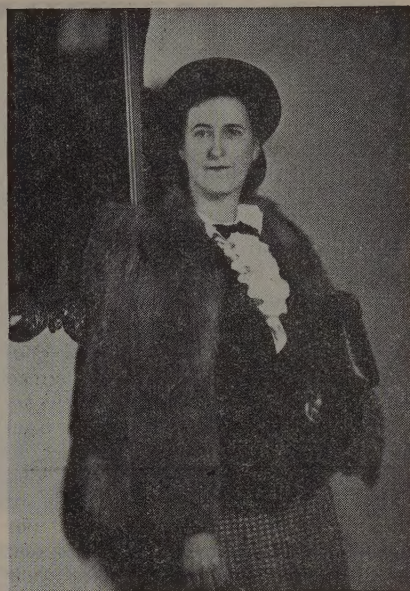
## • Does your state have the most P.T.A.'s listed?

If your association has sent in several batches of subscriptions and your total is now fifty or more, will you please send us this information:

Name of association  
Date (or dates) of orders sent  
Total number

## Cancer Control Month

April is designated as Cancer Control Month, when the American Cancer Society seeks support in its effort to conquer this dread disease. Health chairmen who want material on the observance should write to the American Cancer Society, Inc., 139 North Clark Street, Chicago 2, Illinois.



## INTRODUCING . . .

MRS. H. L. DELLINGER of Memphis, Tennessee. As Congress publications chairman of the Humes High P.T.A., Mrs. Dellinger obtained, entirely by herself, 361 subscriptions to the *National Parent-Teacher*. Her achievement of course placed her local unit at the head of the "50 or More" list. But, in addition, it is an unsurpassed feat of Magazine selling, so far as we know. If anyone has exceeded Mrs. Dellinger's individual record, the editors of the *Bulletin* will be happy to hear the details.

## Red Cross Fund

Launched with an announcement by President Truman, the Red Cross Fund drive began on March 1 and will continue throughout the month. After working closely with the Red Cross on our teachers' kit project, the National Congress feels a special kinship with the organization this year.

## World Fellowship Week

World Fellowship Week is scheduled for April 19-25 so as to coincide with the third anniversary of the United Nations Conference. The American Educational Fellowship (formerly known as the Progressive Education Association), which sponsors this observance, suggests that cooperating groups hold a Fellowship Dinner or Fellowship Forum stressing the topic: "World Peace—My Obligation." The A.E.F. headquarters address is Box 432, San Francisco, California.

## Easter Seal Drive

The National Society for Crippled Children and Adults is again distributing Easter seals, with the reminder that "every Easter seal you buy helps a crippled child." Your state affiliate of the National Society will be able to give you additional information.



# OUR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION PROJECTS

OUR 1946-47 international education project of sending supplies to teachers overseas was an unparalleled success. Through the generosity and diligence of parent-teacher associations the country over, nearly three thousand kits were prepared—and all in the short space of four months!

Many letters of appreciation have been received, among them one from the Commission for International Educational Reconstruction, which termed our project "one of the finest new activities of the year." Letters from abroad, forwarded to the National Congress by the American National Red Cross, express the deep gratitude of those who have benefited from our generosity. The Greek Red Cross sent its thanks to the P.T.A.'s "for their kind contribution to the relief work in favour of our children and specifically of the Greek teachers, who in spite of the various difficulties render so promptly their service." And the general director of the Italian Red Cross wrote: "Very grateful to you for the generous and useful present, we wish to express you our thanking . . . which you will be so kind as to extend to parent-teacher associations."

## P.T.A.'s Ask To Help Further

Realizing that the plight of war-torn countries continues to be critical, thousands of local units have requested that our efforts in the field of international education be continued. Parent-teacher leaders, who helped to make last year's project the success it was, asked either that the sending of kits be continued or that a new plan be drafted for relieving the teachers in Europe's bare, unheated, unprovisioned classrooms. In response to this nation-wide plea, the Board of Managers at its November 1947 meeting approved two new projects for the current year. The first is described here, and the second will be described in the April issue of the *Bulletin*.

## First Project Utilizes CARE

Again our purpose is the same—to help schoolteachers abroad, to put strength in their bodies, hope in their hearts, and teaching tools in their hands. After careful study of all available channels for assisting teachers, the special committee on international education projects recommended the plan developed by CARE (Cooperative for American Remittance to Europe, Inc.). CARE, a nonprofit agency made up of

twenty-seven volunteer organizations, prepares, packs, and sends eleven different types of packages to needy persons in sixteen European countries. All packages are permitted to cross national borders duty-free, tax-free, and ration-free.

## Four Packages Chosen

Out of these eleven possibilities the committee selected four kinds of packages that would be of the greatest possible benefit to teachers, now and in the months—perhaps years—to come. They are (1) the standard food package, (2) the blanket package, (3) the knitting wool package, and (4) the woolen suiting package. Each of these costs ten dollars, the standard price for all CARE packages.

**Standard Food Package** (containing more than 40,000 calories of food)

- 1 lb. braised beef
- 1 lb. liver loaf
- 1 lb. corned beef loaf
- 2 lbs. shortening
- 2 lbs. sugar
- 1 lb. apricots
- 1 lb. raisins
- 7 lb. flour
- 1 lb. chocolate
- 1 lb. cocoa
- 2 lbs. whole milk powder
- 8 oz. egg powder
- 1 lb. coffee (½ lb. tea substituted for coffee in packages for Poland)
- 6 oz. soap
- ¼ oz. yeast

## Blanket Package

- 2 new Army blankets
- 1 set heels and soles, women's shoes
- 1 set heels and soles, men's shoes
- Nails for cobbling
- 4 spools thread
- 1 box darning cotton
- 1 package needles
- 1 thimble
- 1 pair scissors
- 1 comb
- 1 pair shoe laces
- 1 card safety pins
- 2 cakes soap (3 oz. each)

**Knitting Wool Package** (containing enough yarn to make 2 adult sweaters, 2 pairs of socks, 2 pairs of gloves or mittens, 2 caps, and 2 scarfs.)

- 2½ lbs. hand knitting yarn, 100% virgin wool in navy blue, tan, maroon
- 2 knitting needles (14")
- 4 sock needles, double point (7")
- 1 crochet hook (size F)
- 1 steel darning needle
- 20 needles
- 1 tape measure (60")
- 3 yds. rayon binding tape (½")

- 3 doz. black buttons
- 2 cakes soap (3 oz. each)

**Woolen Suiting Package** (containing materials sufficient to make (1) a man's suit of clothes or overcoat or (2) a woman's suit or topcoat)

- 3½ yds. 100% wool, 14 oz. 56- to 58-inch material, herringbone weave
- 2 yds. lining
- 500 yds. thread
- 1 pkg. needles
- 18 buttons
- 1 thimble
- 1 pair scissors
- 2 cakes soap (3 oz. each)

Any of these packages may be ordered sent to specified persons or types of persons in the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, England, Finland, France, Greece, Germany (American, British, and French zones, and all of Berlin), Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Poland, Scotland, and Wales. Only the woolen suiting package may be sent to Eire.

## How the Project Will Be Carried Out

Local units wishing to participate in the project may fill out the order blank on page 7 and send it to CARE, 50 Broad Street, New York, with a \$10 check or money order for each package. Write or print clearly, so there will be no mistake about your name and address or the destination of your package. Be sure to specify the number and type of packages you wish to send. You may send as many as three of each of CARE's cartons to an individual per month, and to as many individuals as you wish.

If you do not know a specific person abroad, you may direct your package to a type of person—for example, "a woman schoolteacher in Leiden."

When your order for a package is received by CARE, you will get a receipt for your money, and when your package is delivered, the recipient signs a receipt which is sent back to you. If by any chance your package cannot be delivered, your ten dollars will be promptly refunded.

Further information, publicity materials, and additional order blanks may be obtained directly from CARE or from your bank, Red Cross, American Railway Express agency, Western Union office, Y.W.C.A., or local CARE committee.



# REPORTS FROM THE SAFETY CONFERENCE

• One of the highlights of the safety conference was a panel discussion in which high school students voiced their views on the subject of safety. Seated at the left is Mrs. L. K. NICHOLSON, national chairman of Safety, and standing next to her is STEPHEN JAMES, director of the Education Division of the Automotive Safety Foundation.

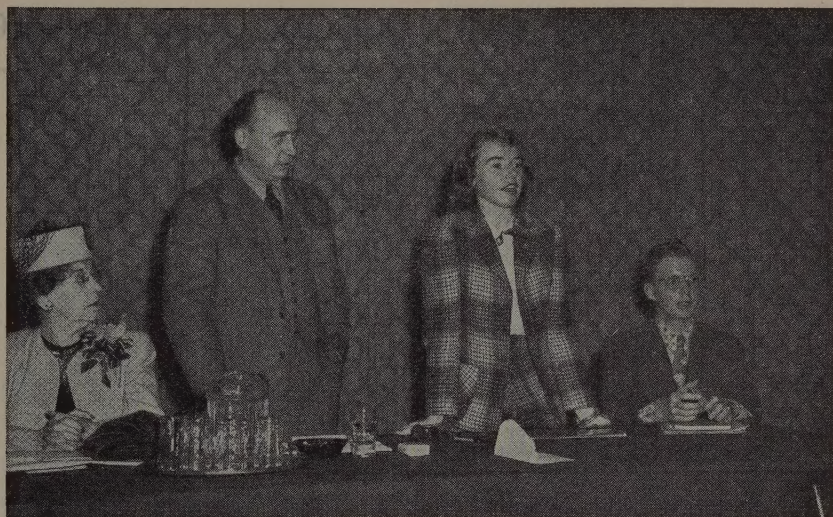
At our recent national safety conference in Washington, D. C., eight regional reports, based on information from the state chairmen in each region, were presented. The following brief summary of these reports will acquaint local associations with the status of safety work in various sections of the country.

**REGION I** (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont). Report given by C. F. Mower, state chairman of safety, Connecticut.

Throughout Region I, Congress P.T.A.'s are supporting driver instruction in high schools, distributing posters on safe driving, and showing safety films. The New Hampshire Congress is supporting a bill requiring motorists to come to a full halt behind stopped school buses. Courses in driving for teachers have been held at the University of Vermont and at Keene Teachers College, Keene, New Hampshire. The Connecticut state branch issues monthly safety bulletins and keeps an up-to-date list of available speakers and films on safety.

**REGION II** (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia). Report given by Mrs. Lloyd Foster, state chairman of safety, Pennsylvania.

Region II has passed resolutions to support the President's Highway Safety and Fire Prevention conferences and has been actively supporting driver instruction in high schools. In New Jersey a campaign is being sponsored to acquaint the public with the school bus laws. The Pennsylvania Congress is cooperating with the American Automobile Association in sponsoring school safety patrols. A course of study in safety has been prepared by the Maryland State Department of Education for use in all public schools. The West Virginia Congress helped to sponsor a safety and health conference.



**REGION III** (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee). Report given by Mrs. T. R. Easterling, state chairman of safety, North Carolina.

The North Carolina Congress helped to enact (1) a bill forbidding the sale, manufacture, and shooting of fireworks and (2) legislation providing for inspection of motor vehicles every six months and examination of drivers every four years. Safety billboards were sponsored by the Georgia Congress, which also cooperated with the Georgia Institute of Technology in the holding of four driver training institutes. The Alabama Congress has helped to sponsor legislation to improve fire prevention laws and to make the minimum driving age 16 years instead of 15.

**REGION IV** (Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin). Report given by Mary May Wyman, state chairman of safety, Kentucky.

The Illinois Congress distributed 250 safety billboards throughout the state and helped to sponsor a bill requiring safety instruction in grades one through nine. The Indiana Congress was one of the sponsors of bills making the department of motor vehicles responsible for issuing drivers' licenses and preventing epileptics from driving. Kentucky P.T.A.'s are working for high school driver training, school safety patrols, and fire prevention. The Kentucky Congress also advocated a law that was passed recently, making drivers financially responsible for accidents. Legislation passed during 1947 in Michigan, changing the minimum driving age from 14 to 16, had been endorsed by the Michigan Congress. A bill forbidding the sale and shooting of fireworks was sponsored by the Wisconsin Congress.

**REGION V** (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota). Report given by H. G. Tiedeman, state chairman of safety, Minnesota.

The Iowa Congress reports activity in cooperation with the safety education department of Iowa State Teachers College. In Minnesota, P.T.A.'s have been cooperating closely with safety councils. Home accident data was mimeographed and distributed to school children by the North Dakota Congress. South Dakota is stressing safety at unit meetings and conferences by means of panel discussions, skits, and other devices.

**REGION VI** (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas). Report given by H. E. Wrinkle, state chairman of safety, Oklahoma.

The Arkansas Congress encouraged junior traffic courts and supported legislation to double the driver's license fee. The Louisiana Congress sponsored essay and poster safety contests for elementary and secondary public school students. Safety materials were distributed to the schools by the Mississippi Congress. Missouri passed a resolution urging the establishment of a state committee on public safety. Oklahoma favored legislation, later enacted, authorizing a course of study on safety and allowing high school credit for driving instruction. The Texas Congress urged legislation to increase the Texas Highway Patrol and to adopt a uniform traffic code.

(Continued on page 6)

**COME TO CLEVELAND  
FOR THE NATIONAL  
P.T.A. CONVENTION!**



**REGION VII** (Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming). Report given by Mrs. R. H. Walter, state chairman of safety, Oregon.

The Hawaii Congress reported that a course to train driving instructors is to be given at the University of Hawaii. Idaho established a \$15,000 fund which is used throughout the state for safety patrol equipment, safety assemblies, and movies. A bill passed in Montana authorizing driver instruction in high schools received the support of the Montana Congress. Junior safety councils and bicycle clubs have been encouraged by the Oregon state branch. Oregon also reported that a driving course for 90 teachers was scheduled for January 1948. The Washington Congress has made efforts to see that driver training is given in all high schools. It also urges frequent inspection of school buses and careful selection of drivers. Wyoming reports that a law passed recently requiring drivers' licenses was supported by the P.T.A.

**REGION VIII** (Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah). Report given by John L. Compton, state chairman of safety, California.

Arizona reports that 95 per cent of the high schools in the state participate in driver education and training courses. Six clinics a year are held for school bus drivers, at which attendance is compulsory. The California Congress endorsed legislation appropriating funds for extensive highway construction. Colorado reported that eight bills pertaining to safety were passed by the state legislature last year. Included were provisions for a safety driver advisory committee organized for the purpose of making recommendations on safety to the governor. New Mexico reports that a high school course in driving instruction was offered for the first time in the state, with police giving instruction in police cars. Nevada reported the organization of safety patrols through the efforts of local units. The Utah Congress sponsored twenty-five billboards on traffic accident prevention.

#### NATIONAL CONVENTION

Cleveland, Ohio

May 24, 25, and 26, 1948

The Statler Hotel will be the official headquarters for our fifty-first convention. Meetings will be held in Cleveland's modern municipal auditorium.

A large delegation is expected. It is a legitimate use of P.T.A. funds—at state, district, council, and local levels—to pay for all or part of a delegate's expenses to this important parent-teacher meeting.

## PUBLICATIONS MESSAGE TO LOCAL LEADERS

**W**E are reaching the season of year when reports are due again. And over a period of years, I've been doing a bit of private research to discover why all the splendid things accomplished are not always reported.

It has its origin in that lapse of time between election of new officers and the end of the school year, in many cases. In areas where monthly conferences or council and district meetings are not held during that interim in the spring, one school of instruction is not enough.

Therefore new officers and chairmen in many local units have a feeling that they "cannot do much" if elected or appointed in the spring because the meetings have already been planned and the programs set up for May and June. Then comes vacation, when leaders are not meeting so often in a P.T.A. capacity. So September and October are well under way before the organization gets its routine work established. **FIVE MONTHS OF THE WORK THAT YOU WILL REPORT ARE GONE!**

So now that February, with its fine review of the past and its promise for a bright future, is history, we should start to plan for next year. Don't shrug and say you will be out of office and the next president can "take over."

We are probably one of the most *on-going* organizations in existence, comparable to an electric clock. Nothing new has been added when a new board takes office except time, energy, and names.

But to save both time and energy and to aid those new officers and chairmen to carry on their work, you who have been leaders have a definite obligation to discharge; that is, to conduct a study course or school of instruction for potential leaders, with the help of the Congress publications you have on hand. Your programs are arranged; your money-raising activities are over; and while collecting material from your chairmen's reports, it will be easier to evaluate your progress or failure, noting carefully what can be done to remedy matters next year. Your report, compared with your own past records, will show you your needs.

The questions and answers in the *Manual* (they'll be the same next year) provide new officers and chairmen with their first source of information. The booklets on *Councils*, *Program Planning*, and *Study Group Techniques* each present definite information for those seeking it. And a continuing study

group, using the *National Parent-Teacher* magazine for reference, is an excellent source of creating interest.

Then there are publications with special appeal. The member who feels he cannot give much time because of caring for a physically handicapped child may make the best chairman next year if that excellent publication, *Children Who Are Exceptional*, is given to him for reading and study.

The reason it is sometimes difficult to find officers is because they *fear* the duties they do not understand. They, then, are hardly in a position to explain to a new chairman his duties if they do not have accurate information before them while giving instructions. That's why your publications were written!

The inspiration you receive at a large district meeting or workshop is invaluable; the conferences which follow are also extremely important. But there is one more step: conducting additional study classes in your own local group with *all* the Congress publications before you for accurate reference. If you do this, you are bound to instill greater confidence in your very new chairmen at the beginning of the year.

The publications sent in the unit packet (in the name of the president) should be circulating freely now. They should have been since last September, of course. But in case there still are some left in a box get them into circulation immediately. Plan the organization study preceding or following a business meeting so that everyone may be included. Every member has helped pay for those publications and has a right to see his purchase.

Note the list of Congress publications on page 93 of the 1947-48 *Manual*, and secure from your district or state chairman those which you lack. Only one person can be president of your association, but from the leadership developing now, future presidents will be selected. Begin training leaders this year for your officers of 1950 and 1960.

Mrs. E. T. Hale

National Chairman

Committee on Congress Publications

**Be sure to subscribe to the NATIONAL PARENT-TEACHER magazine before March 31, 1948. Subscription price in U.S. is \$1 a year.**



# NATIONAL CONVENTION RESERVATIONS

ALL those who plan to attend the national convention on May 24-26 (with the exception of the members of the national Board of Managers) should write at once to the Statler Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio, for hotel reservations. The Statler will be the official headquarters hotel, where the following are the daily rates for room and bath:

- Single room, \$4 to \$7.
- Bedroom for two, double bed, \$6 to \$8.
- Bedroom for two, twin beds, \$6 to \$9.50.
- Also available are a few dormitory style rooms at \$14.50 and \$18.50 for four persons.

The management of the Statler cannot be asked to make roommate assignments. Therefore in asking for your reservation *be sure to give not only your own name and address but the names and addresses of the persons who will room with you.* Be specific as to the exact day and hour you and your party will arrive and depart.

The hotel management has promised to make every effort to find accommodations for all our parent-teacher people. Therefore, it is important that you *state in your letter that you will be attending the convention of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.* Then if all rooms at the Statler are taken, your request will be turned over to the housing division of the Cleveland Convention Bureau. But if you fail to identify yourself, you run the risk of being turned down.

Present indications point to a large convention attendance this year. Write to the Statler Hotel in Cleveland today!

## LAST CALL FOR FOUR-POINT PROGRAM CARDS

To date more than 9,000 replies to the Four-Point Program postal questionnaire have been received, and others are arriving daily. Your outstanding projects can still be recorded at the National Office if you hurry. **PLEASE MAIL YOUR CARD RIGHT AWAY!**



• The National Congress has a long record of cooperation with other national groups whose purposes are also directed toward the welfare of children. Accordingly, The State Advisors on Women's Activities of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis had parent-teacher leaders from four states in attendance at the third annual conference of this organization, which was held at Atlanta, Georgia, in December. Shown here, left to right, are: Mrs. Dale Thomas, president, West Virginia Congress; Mrs. Charles D. Center, national chairman, Committee on Social Hygiene; Mrs. Rollin Brown, president, California Congress; and Mrs. Fred Knight, president, Georgia Congress.

## Streamliners

Recent word from Mrs. Miriam S. Somonski, president of the parent-teacher association of the Giessen Dependents School in Giessen, Germany, reveals that the local unit now has a 100 per cent membership for the school—four teachers and ninety-eight parents.

\* \* \*

Mrs. William George Weekley, president of the Rockland County Council of P.T.A.'s in the New York State Congress, puts out a sprightly little mimeographed release to local presidents and council chairmen. Among the items in the October issue was one headed "Square Dance News," which congratulated the Tappan P.T.A. for having enrolled fifty-six young people in the Co-ed Junior High Square Dance Club.

## ATTENTION . . . Local Presidents and Membership Chairmen!

• Are your membership dues all collected? Have you sent the state and national portions to your state treasurer or state office? If not, won't you please do so at once? The National Congress books close on April 15, 1948. Long before then the state branches must have their last-quarter membership checks in the National Office. Please, therefore, do not delay. Send all dues to your state congress today in order that your association may receive full credit for each member on its rolls.

*The Dubuque Council of P.T.A.'s has recently been sponsoring a broadcast series entitled "Democracy Is Fun." The council has arranged for transcriptions of the series, which will be sent through the Iowa Department of Health to other high schools in the state.*

\* \* \*

The National Parent Teacher received recognition in the Superintendent's Bulletin sent each week to some 2,000 employees of the San Diego City Schools. One entire column devoted to "The Teacher Who Has Helped Me Most" by Paul Witty carried the suggestion that every member of the school faculty read the article.

\* \* \*

*As one means of promoting the fourth area of the Four-Point Program, the Indiana Congress sponsored two conferences at Indiana University last summer, one on home-school cooperation and the other on family life education. The latter was attended by three representatives from each strategic Indiana city—a P.T.A. member, a nurse, and a teacher. Both meetings were highly successful and will be far-reaching in their influence, it is hoped.*

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# Highlights OF THE MONTH

In the March issue of  
**NATIONAL PARENT-TEACHER:  
THE P.T.A. MAGAZINE**

## Dependent Mother or Dependent Child?

by George J. Mohr, M.D.

• How can we help our youngsters to assume greater responsibility as they grow up? What are some of the causes for their failure to become more and more independent? In this month's study course article, a leading psychiatrist knowingly explores the chief reasons why a child often leans too heavily on his mother, to the detriment of both.

## Discipline for Self-discipline

by Dorothy Waldo Phillips

• "Discipline does not mean blind obedience," declares Mrs. Phillips in this article on a subject of deep concern to parents. Advocating self-discipline instead, she gives four reasons why we should inculcate it in our young people and advises parents on how to show their children the real need for rules.

## Guideposts to Mental Health

by C. Charles Burlingame, M.D.

• Modern emphasis on psychology in child training often keeps parents in a mire of uncertainty, according to Dr. Burlingame, an eminent authority in his field. Reminding us that "to be anxious is the best way to impart anxiety," he suggests that we worry less about emotional illness and think more in positive terms.

## Better Lives for All Our Children

### 7. The Fifth Security—A Personal Philosophy

by Bonaro W. Overstreet

• In her own lucid style Mrs. Overstreet likens philosophy to the fitting of boxes inside one another—in other words, of "learning, on the mental, emotional, and social levels of life, *what fits into what*." And in encouraging us to help children become philosophers, she reminds us that we must also be philosophers with them.

## Fiction and Fact About Retarded Readers

by Paul Witty

• Dr. Witty has no trouble exploding many of the most common fallacies about the causes of poor reading, for he is an expert in the field of remedial reading. Because he firmly believes that poor readers can be taught to read, his suggestions on the encouragement of poor readers is authoritative indeed.

## What's Happening in Education?

Directed by William D. Boutwell

• Helping its readers to keep abreast of current happenings in the educational world is

## FREEDOM GARDENS IN 1948

• Now when the snows are melting and the days are growing longer, it's "seed catalogue time." And this year, more than ever before, America needs an intensive gardening program. Much of the world still suffers from hunger and malnutrition, and we ought to make the most of our nation's food resources. Indeed, there are many reasons why the Freedom Gardens program is receiving support. When you raise a garden remember that you are helping to:

- Increase the national food supply, thereby making possible larger shipments of food for foreign relief.
- Reduce the cost of living.
- Raise nutritional standards by providing more fresh fruits and vegetables for daily diets.
- Supply food to be preserved for use all the year round.
- Assist community development and promote family health by:
  1. Providing a source of healthful exercise and recreation.
  2. Developing teamwork and fellowship among all members of the family.
  3. Making home surroundings more attractive.

Material on the "how to do it" phase of the Freedom Garden program can be obtained from your county agricultural and home demonstration agents or from your state agricultural extension service. Garden leaders in your community will of course be glad to help you with your plans.

one of the purposes of the *National Parent-Teacher*. And one means of achieving that purpose is the publishing of "What's Happening in Education," a regular feature now in its third year. The March issue, for example, carries such queries as these:

Where can we turn for information to improve our music program?

What are some good radio programs for children between the ages of eight and twelve?

Shouldn't the schools do more about teaching young people our state and federal laws?

Where can I find out about good records that can be used in schools?

Inasmuch as the director of the department is an educator and writer of note, his answers are always accurate and, in addition, are "folksy" and down to earth.



## OUR BIG TEN TOPPERS

• From now until May the *Bulletin* will carry each month a list that will show

the standings of the various state congresses as they continue to pile up subscriptions to *National Parent-Teacher*.

Among the ten states showing the greatest gain in subscriptions to the *National Parent-Teacher*, Ohio has now taken the lead. Here are the top ten for the period April 1, 1947, through January 31, 1948:

1. Ohio	2,694
2. Illinois	2,654
3. Pennsylvania	1,538
4. Iowa	1,443
5. Alabama	1,397
6. Oregon	1,181
7. Missouri	1,135
8. Georgia	1,110
9. Texas	1,007
10. Florida	971

Pennsylvania and North Carolina moved into fourth and fifth places, respectively, on the list of the ten states having the most subscriptions. The standings now are as follows:

1. Illinois	10,389
2. Ohio	7,743
3. California	7,499
4. Pennsylvania	7,179
5. North Carolina	6,518
6. New Jersey	6,155
7. Alabama	6,058
8. Iowa	6,045
9. Indiana	6,035
10. Texas	5,898

## National Parent-Teacher Magazine Awards

Provisions governing magazine awards, printed on the back of the application forms and in the leaflet, *Information for Local Chairmen*, should be read carefully.

Awards are based on subscriptions received for the period April 1, 1947, through March 31, 1948. Every group of five subscriptions credited to an association changes the star count on the award; therefore awards will not be issued until after all the full reports are in. *The deadline for reports is April 15, 1948.*

If your association has already filed a report, be sure to send a final count so that the number of stars on your award will be correct.